[*English*]

Footbridge at Bhayander Station (Bombay)

6468 SHRI RAM KAPSE Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations regarding the difficulties being faced by the public in crossing railway lines at Bhayander station in the absence of a foot overbridge there;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct a foot overbridge there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RALWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Two foot overbridges already exist at Bhayander Railway Station for use by bonafide railway passengers.

Construction of foot overbridge for the public can be undertaken by the Railways if a proposal therefor is sponsored by the Municipal/Civic Authority, duly consenting to bear the cost, as per rules.

[*Translation*]

Popularisation of Tubelights

6469. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made to popularise the use of tubelights in homes instead of bulbs to bring down consumption of electricity;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to instal tubelights alongwith bulbs in the Government quarters in Delhi;

(c) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). It has been decided, as an energy saving measure, to provide tube light fixtures in all future constructions of Type I Type III Government quarters; the tubes will, however, be supplied by the occupants, There is presently no proposal to provide these in existing residencs in view of financial constraints.

[*English*]

Supply of Natural Gas to Industries in Visakhapatnam

6470. SHRI M.V.V. S. MURTHY Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for the supply of natural gas to industries in Vishakapatnam; and

(b) when gas is likely to be made available to these industries?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Two.

(b) the entire gas presently estimated to become available in the K-G basin has already been committed to other consumers

Black-marketing of Tickets in Karnataka

6471: SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of black-marketing of railway tickets are on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that came to notice in Karnataka during the last two year; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir. However, some cases have come to notice from time to time.

(b) As a result of raids by Southern Railway Vigilance, 1137 touts were booked. This includes 41 unauthorised travel agencies also. Out of these, 19 touts have been apprehended in Bangalore.

(c) Some of the steps taken to curb such unhealthy practices are as under :—

i) Surprise checks/raids are conducted by the Railways in coordination with the local police, wherever necessary.

ii) Under the Railways Act, 1989, the punishment for touts and passengers who travel on unauthorised tickets has been substantially increased.

iii) Public are educated/exhorted through Press, T.V., Posters etc.; not to buy tickets from touts/unauthorised sources.

iv) Special concerted drives to check black-marketing in Railway tickets are also undertaken at least twice a year during summer rush holidays and the Pooja/Dussehra/Diwali periods.

Restoration of Train between Palghat and Shoranur

6472. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the passenger trains running between Palghat and Shoranur (Southern Railway) have been cancelled for the last few month;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to restore these trains; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to lack of commercial justification.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Air Services Between Bombay and Kuwait

6473. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any